

TIMING LIMITATION STIPULATION

No surface use is allowed from March 1 through June 30 in nesting and early brood rearing habitat (defined as within three miles of leks).

This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities unless the findings of analysis demonstrate the continued need for such mitigation and that less stringent, project-specific mitigation measures would be insufficient.

On the lands described below:

For the purpose of:

To protect sage grouse leks and breeding habitat necessary for long term maintenance of required sage grouse populations.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes.

Exception: An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the authorized officer if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action are minimal or can be adequately mitigated.

Modification: The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer determines that portions of the area can be occupied without adversely affecting sage grouse leks.

Waiver: This stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer, in consultation with the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, determines that the entire leasehold can be occupied without adversely affecting sage grouse leks or the surrounding breeding habitat.